

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for purchasing goods or services from a vendor, comprising:

- a) a plurality of prepaid credit cards each having a unique identification number and a monetary value printed on its face;
- b) storage means for storing said identification numbers and said monetary value for each of a plurality of prepaid credit cards;
- c) computing means for approving or disapproving a sale; and
- d) communication means for transmitting and receiving between said computing means and said vendor said identification number and a charge cost, said charge cost being comprised of a price for said goods or services,

whereby a customer using said prepaid credit card is enabled to anonymously purchase said goods or services.

Claim 2 (original): A system as recited by claim 1, wherein said identification number is embossed on said credit card.

Claim 3 (original): A system as recited by claim 1, wherein said identification number is encoded in a magnetic strip on said credit card.

Claim 4 (original): A system as recited by claim 1, wherein said identification number includes a mark indicating card buyer status selected from the group consisting of minor and adult.

Claim 5 (original): A method of payment for goods or services, comprising the steps of:

- a) purchasing a prepaid credit card of a predetermined value from a first vendor, said credit card having a unique identification number and having been issued by an issuing institution;
- b) presenting said prepaid credit card to a second vendor for payment of a charge cost composed of a price for said goods or services;
- c) transmitting said identification number and said charge cost to said issuing institution;
- d) deducting said charge cost from said predetermined value, if said predetermined value equals or exceeds said charge cost;
- e) transmitting sale approval to said second vendor, if said predetermined value equals or exceeds said charge cost; and
- f) transmitting sale disapproval to said second vendor, if said predetermined value does not equal or exceeds said charge cost,

whereby a customer is able to anonymously purchase said goods or services.

Claim 6 (original): A method as recited by claim 5, wherein said identification number is embossed on said credit card.

Claim 7 (original): A method as recited by claim 5, wherein said identification number is encoded in a magnetic strip on said credit card.

Claim 8 (original): A method of payment for goods or services, comprising the steps of:

- a) issuing a plurality of prepaid credit cards of various predetermined values, said credit cards each having a unique identification number and being issued by an issuing institution;
- b) recording said identification number of each credit card with a corresponding predetermined value;
- c) distributing said credit cards to a plurality of first vendors;
- d) selling said credit cards at said predetermined value to customers, said selling being effected by said first vendors;
- e) purchasing a prepaid credit card of a predetermined value from one of said first vendors, said purchasing being effected by said customer;
- f) paying said issuing institution said predetermined value minus a sales commission;
- g) presenting said prepaid credit card to a second vendor for payment of a charge cost comprised of a price for said goods or services;

- h) transmitting said identification number and said charge cost to said issuing institution, the transmitting being effected by said second vendor;
- i) deducting said charge cost from said predetermined value, if said predetermined value equals or exceeds said charge cost;
- j) transmitting sale approval to said second vendor, if said predetermined value equals or exceeds said charge cost;
- k) transmitting sale disapproval to said second vendor, if said predetermined value does not equal or exceeds said charge cost;
and
- l) paying said issuing institution a commission on said sale,
whereby a customer using said prepaid credit card is enabled to anonymously purchase said goods or services.

Claim 9 (new): A system as recited by claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of prepaid credit cards is disposed of after said monetary value printed on said face of each of said credit cards is exhausted.